

# The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service

## The Cabinet for Health and Family Services



# T H E   H E   R T   L I N E

T A K I N G   T H E   P U L S E

COVERING VOLUNTEERISM AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH

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1st Quarter/January 2006 Edition

### 2005 GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Deadline for nominations is Jan. 25



**V**irtually everyone knows at least one of those extraordinary people who give their time, talent, enthusiasm and support to serve the unmet needs of others while asking nothing in return but the satisfaction of helping.

Volunteers give selflessly of themselves to help improve the lives of countless others. They perform their good deeds largely unnoticed and wholly without compensation.

At a special awards ceremony in April, Governor Ernie Fletcher and the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service will publicly honor Kentuckians who have given back to their communities by volunteering.

Nominations are being accepted through Jan. 25 for the annual Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service. These prestigious awards have recognized and celebrated the contributions of Kentucky volunteers for more than a decade.

A special category has been added to the awards program this year to recognize outstanding volunteer expression of the Unbridled Spirit of Kentucky in service to our neighbors to the south affected by the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.

"There are so many Kentuckians who regularly help their neighbors and this is a good way to say 'thank you' to some of Kentucky's great unsung heroes and role models," said Eileen Cackowski, the KCCVS director.

Nomination forms can be picked up at all public libraries and are available online from the KCCVS Web site at [www.chfs.ky.gov/dhss/kccvs/govawards/2005](http://www.chfs.ky.gov/dhss/kccvs/govawards/2005). Photocopies of nomination forms will be accepted and completed forms can be mailed to the KCCVS, 275 East Main Street, Mail Stop 3W-F, Frankfort, KY 40621.

With the exception of those for Director of Volunteers and Lifetime Achievement awards, nominations must focus on service activities that occurred between July 1, 2004 and Dec. 31, 2005. Individuals and groups may be nominated in only one category and self-nominations are accepted. All nominees will receive a certificate of appreciation from the

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### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: KYLC

**N**ow four months into its first program year, it's safe to say the Kentucky Youth Leadership Corps is running full-steam ahead. With 15 members serving with community- and faith-based organizations around the commonwealth, the program is helping to develop leadership and service opportunities for young people and to increase capacity-building on behalf of their host organizations. The members have already logged almost 6,000 hours of service – equivalent to about \$104,000 dollars worth of youth development and service.



Members began their year of service by identifying and mobilizing community resources that could be used to meet local youth needs. This was the first step in bringing people together in the interest of a common goal. Member

Rachel Lewis was and remains a leader in this project by reaching out to more than 120 potential support providers to invite them to attend a networking meeting in January.

"This event will provide youth-serving organizations and programs, as well as representatives of county and city government, the opportunity to address youth-related issues, concerns and plans for the future", Lewis said. "These organizations and the individuals who support them are crucial to promoting the health and success of youth in this community."

Members are also providing leadership training for middle and high school students with the hope of placing them in meaningful roles on youth councils, youth service program governing bodies and/or community boards and commissions. A great example of this is in Butler County where member Kathy Fugate organized an advisory council for the local school board that consists of 11 middle and high school students. So far, the school board has consulted with the advisory council on issues ranging from school lunches to mandatory state testing.

Another component of leadership training is planning and organizing a community service project. The group planned and organized a project around Make A Difference Day that

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**"GETTING THINGS DONE FOR KENTUCKY"**

# Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE



Throughout the newsletter are small bits for your enjoyment. Keep an eye out for them.



The happy dancing man is always accompanied by a "funny." Lighten your mood a little with a short joke.



The thinking man is followed by wise witty words from many sources. Allow him to engage your mind.



This icon is accompanied by a brain teaser. Go ahead, see if you can catch the solution.



This icon indicates that interesting statistics follow. It also begs the question: are all things number? From the philosophy of Pythagoras who said, "all things are number."

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## WHO WE ARE

### KCCVS COMMISSIONERS

Douglas Adams	Kitty Pilger
Philip Anderson	Emily Shelton
Susan Brammer	Anna G. Smith
Amy Burke	Casey Sterr
Miguel Carlin	Wendy Stivers, Ph.D.
W. C. Corbin	Victoria Thompson
Phyllis Culp	Jana Sturm
Cindy Ferrell	Alan Taylor
Virginia Fox	Kate Wenzel
Patrick Hargadon, Chair	Patricia Winlock
Kenneth Knipper	Ex-Officio Member:
Brandi Moore List	Betsy Wells

### KCCVS STAFF

Eileen Cackowski – Director  
 Melissa Newton – Training Officer  
 Shannon Ramsey – Administrative Specialist  
 Andrea Sieloff, RSM – Program Officer  
 Lanny Taulbee - Disabilities Coordinator  
 Marzelle Wurtsmith – Financial Officer

### KCCVS MISSION

To promote all Kentuckians working together to meet actual community needs in a way that fosters personal, family and community pride and an enduring ethic of volunteerism and service.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Brought to you by [www.hookedonfacts.com](http://www.hookedonfacts.com).

- There are no clocks in Las Vegas gambling casinos.
- It takes 100 pounds of rainwater to produce a single pound of food from the earth.
- In one day, a full-grown redwood tree expels more than 2 tons of water through its leaves.
- About 10% of U.S. households pay their bills in cash.
- The fingerprints of koala bears are virtually indistinguishable from those of humans, so much so that they could be confused at a crime scene.
- It takes about a week to make a jellybean.
- Contrary to popular belief, dogs do not only sweat by salivating. They also sweat through the pores on their feet.
- More than 400,000 U.S. houses still lack indoor plumbing.
- The faster a kangaroo hops, the less energy it burns!
- 80% of millionaires drive used cars.
- The male platypus has poisonous spurs on its legs.
- More people are killed by donkeys annually than are killed in plane crashes.
- Only 55% of Americans know that the sun is a star.
- Baby robins eat 14 feet of earthworms every day.

Editor: Shannon Ramsey



"Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination."

- John Dewey, American philosopher (1859-1952)

### COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT

Governor Ernie Fletcher appointed five new commissioners to the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service in 2005. Because the Heart Line is issued four times a year, too few to feature each new commission in a separate issue this year, this issue's Commissioner Spotlight profiles four of the new commissioners in one article.

Casey Sterr

An outdoorsman with a big heart, Casey Sterr joins the commission with extensive non-profit experience. Sterr, Assistant Director of the Community Catholic Center in Louisville since September, previously worked as vice president of Human Service Missions for the Christian Appalachian Project.

A native of Naperville, IL, near Chicago, Sterr holds a Bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University, a Master's degree from the University of Kentucky, and Master's degree in divinity from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

In his free time, Sterr enjoys traveling as well as hiking, backpacking, biking and other outdoor activities.

Sterr believes that serving others is not just an add-on to our lives. Rather, he said, service to our fellow man "lies at the heart of what it means to develop and nurture strong and sustainable communities." This belief led him to become part of an organization with the same outlook.

One of his goals as a commissioner is to "explore new ways of inviting and encouraging more people to volunteer as a way of having a positive affect on their communities," he said.

Amy Burke

Amy Burke, a career prosecutor, has worked for both the Kenton County Attorney and Commonwealth Attorney's Office. Currently, she serves as assistant Kenton County attorney and Chief Domestic Violence Prosecutor. In addition to her legal work, Burke also has been an adjunct professor in the Criminal Justice/ Political Science department at Northern Kentucky University for the past three years.

Burke comes from a family of public servants including a public health nurse, police officer, postal employee and military servicepeople. In her free time, Burke enjoys movies, spending time with friends and working on her first home, which she considers a "fixer-upper."

A Grant County native, Burke believes in giving back to her community. She said she is inspired by "people who give of themselves for good causes." Burke joined the commission to be part of "what makes the people and the Commonwealth of Kentucky so tremendous in both beauty and spirit," she said.

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### E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

To extend the KCCVS outreach even further and enhance the timeliness of our communications, we want to develop an e-mail distribution list. The list will first be used to distribute an electronic version of the Heart Line newsletter, but we may expand the uses for this list as needs and opportunities arise. The need for speed in communications with regard to training and special announcements makes use of e-mail and development of a comprehensive list all the more reasonable.

An e-newsletter also would allow multiple newsletter recipients at the same organization or street address to get their own copy of the newsletter quicker and with less expense to KCCVS than the current hard-copy mailing method.

To get the list started, we're asking interested persons and/or organizations to e-mail us at [kccvs@ky.gov](mailto:kccvs@ky.gov) asking to be added to our e-mail distribution list and providing the e-mail address they'd like us to use. We're also asking those receiving the Heart Line by regular mail to provide that mailing address so we can cross-reference and ensure everyone who wants the newsletter is getting it in the manner they desire.

Those who want to continue receiving the newsletter and other announcements by regular mail may do so. Any updates, additions, revisions or deletions to the KCCVS database can be done by contacting us via e-mail at [kccvs@ky.gov](mailto:kccvs@ky.gov) or by calling Shannon Ramsey at (800) 239-7404, extension 4115.

### AMERICORPS\*NCCC IN LOUISVILLE

Under the Angel Tree

From Oct. 13 to Dec. 17 a team of nine AmeriCorps\*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) members relocated to Louisville to help make Christmas dreams come true for more than 13,000 children.



NCCC team receiving Governor's Citations from the KCCVS  
(L-R) Back Row- HSS  
Commissioner Marla Montell,  
KCCVS Director Eileen  
Cackowski, Kyla Stewart, Fanci  
Purswell, Cory Eckberg, Sarah  
Engel, Major Richard Watts. Front  
Row- Elaine Vandenburg, Holly  
Walker, Michelle Willcox, Angela  
Rogers, Kristopher Reed.

The Salvation Army Angel Tree of Louisville is one of the largest and most successful programs of its kind in the nation. It provides children who would normally receive little or nothing for Christmas with gifts of toys, clothing and a stocking.

The holidays were brightened this year for nearly 6,000 families, including more than 13,000 children, with the help of the Salvation Army Angel Tree of Louisville program.

NCCC members were the

*(continued on page 6)*





- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. goat    | 6. seal   |
| 2. dog     | 7. bear   |
| 3. panda   | 8. camel  |
| 4. ostrich | 9. fish   |
| 5. horse   | 10. llama |

### KENTUCKY HURRICANE RELIEF

#### Mobilizing the Caring Power of Community

Despite the fact that hurricanes Katrina and Rita were hundreds of miles away, their wrath was felt nationwide. In Kentucky, residents were eager to respond to the immediate and long-term needs of evacuees. Throughout the Commonwealth local United Ways helped mobilize community projects to collect items for victims and provide shelter and services for people coming to the state.

Kentucky United Ways were asked by the state emergency management agency to set up collection and distribution centers and help with assembly and shipping of personal comfort kits containing hygiene and toiletry items for those affected by the storms. Within 24 hours, with the help of various service and charitable agencies, four sites were operating in Bowling Green, Corbin, Lexington and Louisville. Ashland and Paducah opened centers mere days later. United Way staff and selfless volunteers spent thousands of hours receiving, sorting and assembling kits.

"It was amazing to see individuals come to the center to make donations, not expecting to stay, but so compelled by the cause, that they pushed up their sleeves and started working on assembling comfort kits," said Terry Tolan, United Way of Kentucky president and Louisville collection center volunteer.

The community response was overwhelming. Businesses donated supplies to the centers including pallettes, shrink-wrap machines and boxes. Individuals and groups brought items and donated money. The support of caring spirits sent 33 semi truckloads south to assist with the immediate needs of persons impacted by the hurricanes and resulting flooding.

United Ways in Danville, Elizabethtown, Madisonville and Hopkinsville also set up collection centers and other local United Ways assisted as families arrived from storm-damaged areas. Housing officials, social services agencies and other community partners welcomed new arrivals, assessed their needs and connected them with appropriate services. Local United Ways also provided and raised additional money for further hurricane relief.

The United Ways of Kentucky helped families begin restoring and renewing life and continue to work with community partners to focus and rebuild lives here and homes and communities in the impacted areas.

Submitted by Terry Tolan, President, United Way of Kentucky



Christmas oxymoron: What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks?

### VOLUNTEERS AND DISASTERS

In an unprecedented November tornado outbreak, Western Kentucky/Southern Indiana became a new "tornado alley". In the early hours of Sunday, Nov. 6, a deadly tornado ripped through Henderson, Ky. and Newburgh, Ind. killing 22 people, injuring 200 and destroying hundreds of homes. The tornado hit with little warning and most residents were sleeping.

Nine days later another series of tornadoes ripped through Western Kentucky. Madisonville was hit hard and in Marshall County, at least one death was reported. Other communities reported damage.

When disasters occur, the volunteer spirit comes alive. Many people throughout the state volunteered to go to affected Gulf Coast states following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Kentucky families opened their homes to hurricane evacuees and helped in countless other ways at home and in the hurricane-stricken areas. The same was true in the wake of the Kentucky and Indiana tornadoes.

Daviess countians experienced a devastating tornado in January 2000 and fortunately avoided damage from the November tornadoes. Following the 2000 tornado, federal emergency response officials said they had never before seen such great community involvement and made similar observations following the November tornadoes.

For many, such disasters tend to highlight the importance of being prepared. In Daviess County enrollment has exploded in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes. More than 170 residents have completed the eight-week course and 35 are registered for the winter session.

Tornadoes, floods, snow and ice storms, earthquakes and other natural and man-made disasters can strike at almost any time. We're fortunate to have the Citizen Corps and other volunteer programs helping to educate the public about preparedness and response. We need to continue to encourage public support for volunteer programs to keep Kentuckians safe.

Submitted by Vicky Connor, Daviess County EMA planner



"What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?"

- George Eliot, English novelist (1819-1880)

### MIDWINTER REMINDER

Annual AmeriCorps member training will be held Feb. 21 and 23. Members from the western part of the state will meet for training at Rough River State Resort Park in Falls of Rough on Tues., Feb. 21 beginning at 10 a.m. CST. Training for members from the eastern part of the state will be held at Natural Bridge State Resort Park in Slade on Thurs., Feb 23 beginning at 10 a.m. EST.

Training Officer Melissa Newton has planned some exciting activities and topics of interest for these training sessions to reenergize members for the second half of the service year.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY RESULTS



Make A Difference Day 2005 in Kentucky was a success!

Created by USA Weekend magazine, Make A Difference Day is an annual observance dedicated to helping others – a celebration of neighbor helping neighbor.

The 2005 celebration, on Oct. 22, focused on making a difference in the health of Kentuckians, in support of Governor Ernie Fletcher's Get Healthy Kentucky initiative. As in previous years, a statewide beef stew collection drive was held to help stock food pantries and emergency feeding centers across the state. But, this year, additional, health-related activities were held in conjunction with the beef stew drive.

Pendleton, Muhlenberg, Shelby, Oldham, Laurel, Metcalfe, Barren and Franklin counties reported successful community activities aimed at emphasizing the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and preventing disease. Activities included sponsored walks, health education fairs, first aid classes and rallies.

The seven-county Green River Area hosted health-related events and a beef stew drive. Participating counties received certificates of appreciation signed by the governor.

Almost 300,000 ounces of stew was collected – enough to feed more than 35,000 Kentuckians. More than 80 counties participated in the beef stew collection effort. The Kentucky River Service Region collected the most stew among all the regions, reporting 19,372 ounces collected by the region's 141 employees.

A total of 86 of Kentucky's 120 counties reported participation in the 2005 Make A Difference Day. The KCCVS hopes to have all 120 counties participating within three years and to increase the number of counties featuring health-related community activities as part of their observances.

For more information about Make A Difference Day, visit the KCCVS Web site at [www.volunteerKY.ky.gov](http://www.volunteerKY.ky.gov).

## DISABILITIES CORNER

### On the Edge of Accessibility



As a relatively new employee (three months) of the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, I recently had the opportunity to attend the National Conference on Disability Inclusion and National Service in Washington, D.C. The conference was sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service as part of its National Service Inclusion Project to promote the active engagement of people with disabilities in all levels of national and community service. As a person with a disability, I had never before attended a conference where volunteering and inclusion were mentioned in the same sentence, much less the

conference name. What an idea! People with disabilities seem to be the recipients of others' generosity and now **we** have the opportunity to provide service to others.

Despite considerable travel experience, each trip I take, whether to the grocery or to Washington, D.C., pose challenges. My first obstacle – and first pleasant surprise – occurred when boarding the plane. A thoughtful airline employee asked on my behalf if the plane could be boarded from the skyway rather than the tarmac – and the request was granted. Instead of going outside the terminal to board, all passengers avoided the cold and I was able to board without special assistance.

I arrived in the nation's capital with no noteworthy problems, checked in to my hotel, picked up my rental scooter, and underwent a crash course in operating it – which actually included crashing. I knew the scooter had been a good idea when I looked at the map to my room. First, I had to get on the elevator from the lobby and go down to a lower level where the conference events were being held. Then, I had to go down a hallway, turn left, then right, then right again and take another elevator the fourth floor, get off the elevator and turn left. My room was just beyond the elevator. As I arrived at my room, I was fortunate to encounter a member of the housekeeping staff who gave me a door stop to use while entering and exiting my room on the scooter – an old trick I learned from traveling alone.

My room was the first "handicap accessible" accommodation I'd ever had, so I was curious about what was considered "accessible." I assessed the room for any accommodation problems and identified several: bathroom sink – too high; shower head with hand-held hose – also too high; coffee pot – where is that outlet? The bed also it looked a little high so I made a mental note to do a closer inspection later. Then, I headed to the conference.

I attended a session for state disability coordinators followed by a workshop called *Planning for Emergencies: People with Disabilities Leading the Way*. About halfway to the workshop site my scooter battery began to die. I crept along and coasted to a stop alongside a hotel Christmas tree. A hotel employee let me leave the scooter where it was to recharge and I continued to the workshop on foot. Always an adventure!

After the workshop, I checked on the scooter – and happily discovered its location was adjacent to the conference reception area. That made things a lot easier for me, as I was able to sit on the scooter as it charged, have a snack from the buffet and network with participants as they strolled by.

Finally, it was time to return to my room after a long day of "socializing." Directions in hand, I made my way to my room and left the scooter in the hallway, knowing I'd need to go back to the lobby to ask for a few "accommodations," such as one of those beverage trays from the banquet kitchen to use as a stool to reach the bathroom sink and to ask to have the hand-held shower head removed from its holder which

*Continued on page 7*

backbone of the Angel Tree program. Nine members from across the country -three from Washington, two from Texas, two from Michigan, one from Wisconsin and one from Maine - lived and worked in Louisville for almost 10 weeks helping eligible families apply, making angels to hang on the trees, entering data, managing warehouse inventory and volunteers, and helping with pick-up and distribution tasks.

The NCCC team also helped with disaster relief, dedicating two weeks to collecting donations and packing up relief shipments bound for the Gulf Coast region. They also assisted with tornado aftermath relief efforts by helping get supplies to Munfordsville, Madisonville and Henderson.



To close out their disaster relief and Angel Tree work, the NCCC team hosted a holiday party for relocated hurricane evacuees in the Louisville area. At the party families were invited to choose quilts donated by the

American Quilters Society and received other comfort items.

"Our accomplishments in service could not have been reached without the generosity of the people and communities we worked in," said NCCC member Sarah Engel.

Each member of the team is grateful for the opportunity to lend a helping hand and will carry memories of this project throughout the remainder of his or her terms of service with AmeriCorps\*NCCC.

AmeriCorps\*NCCC is a network of national service programs created to improve the environment, enhance education, increase public safety and assist with disaster relief and other unmet human needs. The Southeast campus, located in Charleston, S.C., serves Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee and the Virgin Islands. The Southeast campus is one of five campuses in the United States; the others are located in Perry Point, Md.; Sacramento, Calif.; Washington, D.C.; and Denver, Colo.

NCCC members ages 18-24 must complete at least 1,700 hours of service during the 10-month program. In exchange for their service, they receive \$4,725 to help pay for college or to pay school loans. Other benefits include leadership development, team building skills, increased self-confidence and the satisfaction of knowing that they have made a real difference in communities across the country. AmeriCorps is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service and is administered in Kentucky by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

For information about AmeriCorps, call the KCCVS at (800) 239-7404 or visit [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org). For information on AmeriCorps\*NCCC, please call (843) 743-2600 X3027 or e-mail [ncccsoutheast@americorps.org](mailto:ncccsoutheast@americorps.org).

Submitted by Elaine Vandenburg, NCCC team leader



There is an animal hiding in each sentence below. Can you find the animals? Example: There's a "bee" in the sentence "I'll be eleven next month." Hint: You'll have to look in three words to find some of the animals.

1. We can go at six o'clock.
2. It's nice to do good deeds.
3. Take soap and a towel.
4. Most rich people wear fancy clothes.
5. You can keep the watch or sell it.
6. Use a ladder.
7. It will be a rainy day.
8. I came late.
9. Tell me if I should start now.
10. Will a map help you?

*Answer on page 4.*

*Commissioner Spotlight (continued from page 3)*

Patricia Winlock

A natural fit for the commission, Patricia Winlock works with Shelby County Public schools as the District Volunteer Coordinator. Her background in volunteerism is a considerable asset to the KCCVS.

Happily married for 17 years to husband to Robert, they have four children and are expecting a fifth in early June. A spiritual person, Winlock and her family attend Shelby Christian Church where she is a proud member of a group called Lydia's Ladies.

Winlock became aware of the commission while researching ways to better her community. Due to the nature of her job, she understands the importance of volunteerism and was inspired by the work of the commission. "I was amazed by how much and in how many ways our community and state volunteer," she said.

Susan Brammer

Susan Brammer is the Maysville City Attorney and a partner in the law firm Royse, Zweigart, Kirk, Brammer and Caudill, also located in Maysville.

Brammer and her husband Kenny, a retired Mason county teacher, have two children, both of whom attend college. She enjoys reading and being with family and friends in what little spare time she has.

A devoted volunteer herself, Brammer was drawn to the commission as a way to help meet the many needs she sees in both her community and statewide. Dedicated to improving lives of Kentuckians, she said, "Serving on the commission will be an opportunity to learn about different projects and to help our state progress in improving the lives of its citizens."

The KCCVS is excited about the future of the commission and the fresh ideas and experience that the new commissioners bring to the table. We are so pleased to welcome our new commissioners onboard!



*Disabilities Corner (continued from page 5)*

was too high for me to reach. I had planned for slippery tubs and floors by bringing four small bath mats.

I still hadn't located an accessible outlet for the coffee maker and, now, realized I'd also need an outlet to recharge the scooter. I would inform hotel management about that little accessibility problem. Fortunately, I'd had the foresight to bring along a three-foot surge protector. I'd long ago discovered access to hotel room outlets isn't always guaranteed.

Finally, it was time to check that suspicious bed. As I'd suspected, it was much too high for me – by at least five inches. I'm not sure how a person using a wheelchair could ever transfer onto a bed that high, but at that moment, it was **my** dilemma. After a great deal of thought, I finally decided to present the situation to the hotel staff in the hope someone could find a solution.

At 11 p.m., I went to the lobby to discuss my accommodation issues. Hotel employees made every effort possible to help. They located a beverage tray, plugged in the coffee maker (using **my** surge protector) and lowered the shower hose. After reviewing the bed problem, an engineer was called to the scene and, through a process of elimination, decided to place the box springs and mattress directly on the floor. Problem solved! Of course, the engineer had to call house-keeping to remove and replace the bed linens, but eventually I was able to bathe, get my morning caffeine dose and get into and out of bed.

Around midnight, my accessible room was mostly functioning well and I enjoyed a good night's sleep. Overall, it was all fairly routine for a person with a disability facing accessibility challenges. I can't help but wonder, with all the additional "accommodations" needed to make that hotel room truly handicap accessible, should I request one next time or am I better off adapting a regular room – which is more readily available - to my needs?

Either way, I'll be sure to bring along my surge protector, bath mats and a half-carload of equipment just to spend the night in a hotel. I may as well rent an RV... wonder if they're handicap accessible?

Submitted by Lanny Taulbee, KCCVS Disabilities Coordinator

*Governor's Awards (continued from cover page)*

governor. Award winners from the previous five years are ineligible for the 2005 awards.

A panel of judges with experience in volunteerism and community service will carefully review every application and score nominees on a 100-point scale. Staff reserves the right to reassign a nomination to another award category if appropriate.

The 2005 Governor's Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Frankfort during National Volunteer Week, April 23-29.

For more information, contact the KCCVS office by calling toll free (800) 239-7404 or by e-mail at [kccvs@ky.gov](mailto:kccvs@ky.gov).

*KYLC Spotlight (continued from cover page)*

brought together Butler County Community Education, FFA, 4-H, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts. "Butler County is in its first year to have an alternative learning center and the entrance was bare and uninviting", Fugate said. "[So we] built a picnic table and planted mums in planters and placed them at the doorway."

Member Cindy Jolly, working with the Fleming County Extension Service, is also off to a great start. The 12 middle and high schools students selected for the program have produced and performed skits about firearm safety at local elementary schools as part of their community service requirement.

"We live in a rural area where hunting is common. Most young children are around firearms," said Jolly, who has worked with 4-H shooting sports for several years. "[But] this is not about how to fire a gun or how to shoot. Our basic message will be 'if you find a firearm, don't touch, leave the area and tell an adult.'" This program helps youth address specific community needs through service. The 12 students will also be supported throughout the year by 12 adults Jolly has recruited as mentors.

Overall, it has been a fantastic start for the Kentucky Youth Leadership Corps. If you would like to learn more about our Corps, please visit our Web site, [www.kychildnow.org/kylc](http://www.kychildnow.org/kylc), and check back often as the site is under construction.

Submitted by Brian Perry, KYLC program director

**KY-READS GETS COMPUTERS**



**M**ammoth Cave National Park recently donated computers to KY-READS, a student tutoring AmeriCorps program administered through Barren County schools. Shannon Bailes and Donna Brown, KY-READS

staff, received two Pentium laptop computers and three Pentium personal desktop computers on Oct. 18 from David Vanarsdall, Mammoth Cave property officer.

KY-READS serves children in the Barren County school district with help from caring families, supportive schools, involved communities and dedicated volunteers. The program provides tutoring to help students improve their reading comprehension skills and develop a lifelong love of reading.

The donation was managed through a Web site, [www.computers.fed.gov](http://www.computers.fed.gov), maintained by the U.S. General Services Administration, the federal government property authority. Schools register on the site and their needs are matched with available surplus government property. Federal agencies transfer surplus computers to schools and non-profit educational organizations under an executive order intended to direct surplus education equipment and technology to schools that need it.

Submitted by Shannon Bailes, KY-READS program director

## WHAT'S ON OUR CALENDAR?

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL

2006

**Jan. 1** – New Year's Day  
**Jan. 2** – Last day of Hanukkah (Jewish)  
**Jan. 10** – Eid-al-Adha (Islamic)  
**Jan. 16** – Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service  
**Jan. 25** – Deadline for Governor's Awards nomination forms  
**Jan. 31** – Muharramn/New Year (Islamic)  
**Feb. 14** – Valentine's Day  
**Feb. 20** – President's Day  
**Feb. 21** – Midwinter Training (Rough River S.R.P.)  
**Feb. 23** – Midwinter Training (Natural Bridge S.R.P.)  
**Mar. 8** – International Women's Day  
**Mar. 20** – Spring Equinox  
**Apr. 2** – Daylight Savings Time  
**Apr. 11** – Prophet's Birthday (Islamic)  
**Apr. 13** – First day of Passover (Jewish)  
**Apr. 14** – Good Friday (Christian)  
**Apr. 16** – Easter Sunday (Christian)  
**Apr. 17** – Easter Monday (Christian)  
**Apr. 20** – Last day of Passover (Jewish)  
**Apr. 21-23** – National Youth Service Day  
**Apr. 23-29** – National Volunteer Week  
**Apr. 26** – Administrative Professionals Day

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### NEXT EDITION:

- Report on Midwinter training
- Commissioner Spotlight: Philip Anderson
- Program Spotlight: Promise Corps
- 2005 Governor's Awards recipients



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